

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) An anoscope, comprising a first hollow body open at opposite ends and a second hollow body open at opposite ends shapingly coupled with said first hollow body and arranged to coaxially rotate inside said first hollow body, said second hollow body being provided with a window arranged to make a portion of rectal mucous membrane accessible, wherein said window comprises an operating window and has dimensions and a shape such as to enable a surgical device to intervene on said portion, wherein the operating window is of constant size.

26. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 25, and furthermore comprising an angular positioning element arranged to adjust the relative angular position of said second hollow body in said first hollow body in preset reciprocal angular positions.

27. (Currently Amended) An anoscope comprising a first hollow body open at opposite ends and a second hollow body open at opposite ends shapingly coupled with said first hollow body and arranged to coaxially rotate inside said first hollow body, said second hollow body being provided with a window arranged to make a portion of rectal mucous membrane accessible, wherein an angular positioning element is ~~furthermore provided arranged to adjust~~

the relative angular position of said second hollow body in said first hollow body in preset reciprocal angular positions, said reciprocal angular positions corresponding to a same number of positions that can be taken up by said window, wherein the first and second hollow bodies are rotatable relative to one another while the operating window maintains a constant size and allows access to the rectal mucous membrane at all of said reciprocal angular positions.

28. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 27, wherein said window has dimensions and a shape such as to enable a surgical device to intervene on said portion.

29. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 27, wherein said first hollow body comprises a first truncated-cone portion.

30. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 29, wherein said first truncated-cone portion is solidly connected with a second truncated-cone portion that has a progressively decreasing cross-section.

31. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 30, wherein said second truncated-cone portion is solidly connected with a third truncated-cone portion that protrudes from a part opposite said first truncated-cone portion and has a progressively decreasing cross-section.

32. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 29, wherein said first hollow body has an edge that is comprised in a base of said first truncated-cone portion.

33. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 32, wherein said second hollow body comprises a rotation segment and an operating segment, that can be associated with one another before use.

34. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 25, wherein said second hollow body comprises a rotation segment and an operating segment, that can be associated with one another before use.

35. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 34, wherein said window is arranged on said operating segment.

36. (Canceled).

37. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 25, wherein said operating window is defined by a U-shaped cut.

38. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 25, wherein said window opens near to the point that can be reached by the tip of an index finger of a hand of an individual of medium build, by inserting said index finger inside said second hollow body.

39. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 33, wherein said edge comprises a plurality of notches.

40. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 39, wherein said notches are 6 in number.

41. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 40, wherein said notches are arranged along said edge according to the hours on an imaginary clock-face.

42. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 41, wherein said notches are arranged at 1 o'clock, 3 o'clock, 5 o'clock, 7 o'clock, 9 o'clock, 11 o'clock.

43. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 39, wherein said angular positioning element is integral with said rotation segment.

44. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 43, wherein said angular positioning element comprises a plurality of teeth.

45. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 44, wherein said plurality of teeth comprises a locking tooth.

46. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 45, wherein said locking tooth comprises a recess housing a peg.

47. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 46, comprising an elastic element interposed between said peg and the bottom of said recess.

48. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 46, wherein the rotation of said angular positioning element can be locked by an interaction between said peg and each of said notches.

49. (Canceled).

50. (Currently Amended) An anoscope according to claim 25, wherein the operating window is positioned beyond the distal end of the first hollow body.

51. (Previously Presented) An anoscope according to claim 27, wherein the preset angular positions correspond to arterial branches of a patient's rectal wall.

52. (Previously Presented) A method for treating hemorrhoids based on the "Sias" method, using the anoscope of claim 25, the method comprising:

orienting a grip of the anoscope parallel to the intergluteal sulcus of the patient;

rotating the second hollow body relative to the first hollow body while maintaining the first hollow body in a stationary position;

temporarily fixing the second hollow body in one of six preset angular positions corresponding to the arterial branches of the patient's rectal wall; and

surgically treating any hemorrhoids at each of the six preset angular positions.

53. (New) An anoscope according to claim 37, wherein a convex portion of the U-shaped operating window oriented towards the first hollow body, and an open end of the U-shaped operating window is arranged at a distal end of the second hollow body.

54. (New) An anoscope according to claim 27, wherein the window of the second hollow body is provided at a distal end of the second hollow body, and the second hollow body protrudes outside and beyond a distal end of the first hollow body.

55. (New) An anoscope according to claim 27, wherein the positioning element includes a locking member that maintains alignment with the window during rotation of the second hollow body.

56. (New) An anoscope according to claim 25, wherein the operating window is of constant size independent of the rotational positions of the first and second hollow bodies relative to one another.